Serial No. 10/830,084

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2 and 13 have been cancelled and claims 1, 3, 6-7, 10-12, 14, 23 and 31 have been amended. Claims 1, 3-12 and 14-31 are pending and under consideration. Claims 23 and 24 are objected to.

Independent claim 1 recites the shattering member comprises a first slant and a second slant each respectively at different obtuse angles to a dropping direction of the used toner dropped from the used toner inlet. In contrast, the dispersing member 12 of Okada comprises left and right portions at the same slant. Okada, Fig. 1.

Independent claim 6 recites a first blade face in parallel with a dropping direction of the used toner from the used toner inlet. It is respectfully submitted that the left and right portions of the dispersing member 12 of Okada are not parallel to the dropping direction "from the used toner inlet."

The remaining references do not overcome these deficiencies.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 5-26-06

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